



TU NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026 / ISSUE: 2026-01

Kia ora everyone, and welcome back to Thumbs Up for 2026! We hope you all had a relaxing and joy filled Christmas and New Year break. It's been wonderful to see the centre buzzing with energy again as familiar faces return and new service users join our community.

January has been a fantastic month of reconnecting, settling back into routines, and kicking off the year with creativity, fun, and learning. Our teams have jumped straight into a wide range of activities—from arts and crafts to fitness sessions, cooking programmes, and community outings. The enthusiasm and positive spirit from everyone have set an inspiring tone for the year ahead.

Ready for Take-off!

Standing strong in their rain gear, Corey and Phillip looked ready to flap those bright blue wings and glide over the next muddy patch instead of walking through it. True outdoorsmen with bonus aerodynamics



Fundraising: Thumbs Up wouldn't be able to offer the amazing service that we do without fundraising and grants. We would love your support in helping us achieve our fundraising goals for this year. If you were not aware, Thumbs Up does have a [give a little page](https://givealittle.co.nz/org/thumbsup) where you can donate to us (every little bit helps)- givealittle.co.nz/org/thumbsup or **scan the QR code** to the left.



Please share this page with family/friends/work colleagues who may like to donate to a worthy cause. thank you to people who have recently donated! We are also going to be selling items on Trade Me, so if you know anybody who may have items to donate, please ask them to get in contact.

Our Newest Members

Join the Fun

We are delighted to welcome two new service users, Holly and Luke, who will each be attending Thumbs Up three days a week.

Holly is enthusiastic, creative, and loves getting involved in hands on activities.

She especially enjoys arts and crafts and has already shown a keen eye for colour and design. We're excited to see her talents shine as she settles in.



Luke brings great energy and a big smile to the group. He enjoys being active, trying new things, and joining in with team activities. We're thrilled to have him contributing to the fun and positive spirit at Thumbs Up.



WELCOME

Buzzing New Friendships

With a big smile and a new insect friend in tow, Xavier looked absolutely delighted to be chosen as this cicada's honorary tour guide.



Calm, patient, and clearly on good terms with nature, Shelby made fast friends with one of our loud little neighbours at the park.



Andrew regaled us all when he read Slinky Malinki to everyone at the Library



Dion has decided to challenge himself this year with trickier puzzles.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

Term 1 2026

12th January—1st May

Closed: Feb 6th: Waitangi Day;

April 3rd - 6th: Easter; **April 27th:** Anzac Day Observed

Term 2 2026

11th May—28th August

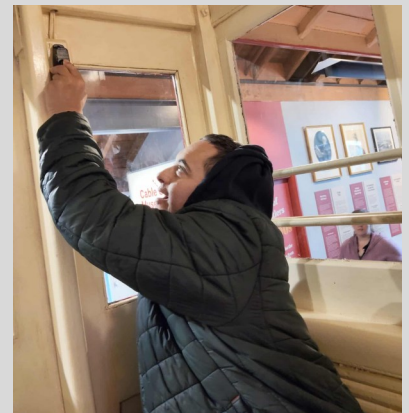
Closed: June 1st: King's Birthday;

July 10th: Matariki

Term 3 2026

7th September—17th December

Closed: Oct 26th: Labour Day **17th Dec:** Xmas Party and last day for service users; **23rd Dec:** Staff last day



There's lots of joy and energy as we get reconnect with and explore our community after the holidays!

TU ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

- The wonderful donors who have been donating through our Give-a-little page.
- All of our wonderful volunteers— your support enables us to continue to deliver our diverse and wonderful programmes.
- Hutt Timebank and the Koha Cafés for their ongoing support in creating meaningful volunteer roles for our members within the community.

FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, 11 - 1

Tiaki Room, Wesley Rātā Village, 249 Rātā St

NAENAE KOHA CAFE

share kai, kōrero and community

Pay what you can.

Your koha could be bringing food or helping out!

Hosted by



OUR NEXT ISSUE

WILL BE SENT OUT:

First week of March 2026

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Contact us:

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